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4. AFP Expansion: This is Not a Theme Park
5. Afghanistan: Negotiations with Taliban?
6. Inquiry into N-test Veterans' Case

1. Security Body Mooted for North-East Asia, Peter Ker and Daniel Flitton, Age, 2007-10-17Australia would be asked to join a new multinational peace and security organisation in Asia as part of continuing attempts to engage North Korea with the rest of the world. Dubbed the North-East Asian Peace and Security Mechanism, the proposed organisation was outlined at the Sydney Institute yesterday by Christopher Hill, the United States Assistant Secretary of State for East Asia and the Pacific.
   - On History, Nationalism and a Northeast Asian Community, Roh Moo-hyun, Japan Focus, 2007-05-19

- Building Multi-Party Capacity for a WMD-Free Korean Peninsula, Institute for Foreign Policy Analysis (IFPA), 2005-07-14

2.
3. Defence Dept Denies Timor Beating Claim, ABC, 2007-10-18The Australian Defence Department has rejected allegations that six Australian soldiers beat a civilian Timorese security guard in Dili last Sunday. A Fretilin party MP reportedly told East Timor's Parliament that the guard was beaten by the soldiers. The MP also said two other people were assaulted by the Australian troops.
   - About Operation Astute, Australian Defence Department

4.
5. NZ's Involvement in Global Peace Operations: Speech to the Swedish Institution of International Affairs, Winston Peters, Scoop, 2007-10-18NZ is currently looking to improve its whole-o--government framework, with the aim of increasing the effectiveness of engagement with fragile and post-conflict states. This requires complete coordination between departments responsible for security; political and economic affairs; and development and humanitarian assistance.
6. AFP Expansion: This is Not a Theme Park, Marni Cordell, New Matilda, 2007-10-17Facing a storm of criticism for the conduct of its officers in the Solomon Islands and East Timor in particular, the AFP has been forced to significantly re-evaluate its approach to offshore policing over the past three years - not just on the ground, but also in its role as what AFP Commissioner Mick Keelty has referred to as the 'deployable arm of Australian Government policy.'
   - AFP Expansion: Don't Mention the Riots, Marni Cordell, New Matilda, 2007-09-12
   - AFP Expansion: Helping Friends or Helping Ourselves? Marni Cordell, New Matilda, 2007-09-24

7.
8. Afghanistan: Negotiations with Taliban? Barnett Rubin, Informed Comment Global Affairs, 2007-10-16The real dangers of negotiation are not those pointed out by its critics. Negotiation with insurgents could help bring stability and peace to Afghanistan if it brings former armed groups into the political system. But it will merely change the nature of instability if it is part of a realignment rather than a peace process.
   - Taliban sets Out Demands to Afghan President, Declan Walsh and Sami Yousafzai, Guardian, 2007-10-15
   - UK Backs Plan to Split Taliban from Within, Julian Borger and Declan Walsh, Guardian, 2007-10-15

9.
10. Inquiry into N-test Veterans' Case, BBC, 2007-10-15A parliamentary inquiry has begun into British nuclear tests in the South Pacific in the 1950s, which veterans say led to genetic defects. Veterans claim they were not given proper protection during the Christmas Island testing programme and their families have become ill as a result. The nuclear devices were tested on Christmas Island, in the Pacific Ocean, in the 1950s. 400 veterans involved are from the UK and 300 are Commonwealth colleagues from New Zealand and Fiji.
    - New Zealand Study Prompts British Nuclear Inquiry, Geraldine Coutts with Al Rowland, 2007-10-16 [audio]
    - Operation Grapple, Wikipedia
    - Christmas Island Bomb Tests, Jane Resture, 2007-07-23

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